

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BELIZE 00782 172216Z

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ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 USIA-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

/037 W

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R 171900Z SEP 76

FM AMCONSUL BELIZE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5224

UNCLAS BELIZE 0782

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SEDU BH

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION -- "NATIONAL UNIVERSITY BELIZE"

1. MINED CHIEF EDUCATION OFFICER WILLIAM FONSECA HAS CALLED CONGEN'S ATTENTION TO INSTITUTION IDENTIFYING ITSELF AS "NATIONAL UNIVERSITY BELIZE", AMONG OTHER APELLATIONS, AND FURNISHED VARIETY OF DOCUMENTS PURPORTEDLY EMANATING FROM "UNIVERSITY". FONSECA SAYS MINED HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH INSTITUTION AND DOUBTS ITS EXISTENCE. MINISTRY FEELS IT SHOULD ISSUE STATEMENT DISASSOCIATING ITSELF AND REST OF GOB WITH ANY SUCH ENTITY, BUT WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION BEFORE DOING SO. FONSECA REQUESTED USG INVESTIGATION,

IF THIS POSSIBLE.

2. PRINCIPAL DOCUMENT AMONG THOSE PROVIDED BY FONSECA IS BROCHURE DESCRIBING "THE EXTERNAL DEGREE PROGRAM" OF "NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF GRADUATE STUDIES". BROCHURE DESCRIBES PROGRAM, DEGREES OFFERED, CURRICULUM, ETC. OTHER NAMES OF INSTITUTION APPEARING IN BROCHURE ARE "UNIVERSITY SYSTEM FOUNDATION LIMITED" AND "AUTONOMOUS BELIZEAN CITIZENS NATIONAL UNIVERSITY SYSTEM INCORPORATED". LATTER IS NAME USED ON APPLICATION FORM.

3. INSTITUTION APPEARS TO BE CORRESPONDENCE-SCHOOL TYPE ORGANIZATION (65.00 DOLS PER SEMESTER, WITH 25.00 DOLS APPLICATION FEE) BASED IN HOUSTON, TEXAS. ALTHOUGH DESCRIPTIVE BROCHURE IMPLIES CAMPUS IN BELIZE (WHICH THERE OF COURSE IS NOT), ONLY ADDRESS GIVEN
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IS P. O. BOX 26254, HOUSTON, TEXAS 77207 (TELEPHONE (713)-649-

6213). BROCHURE AND OTHER MATERIALS APPEAR DESIGNED SO THAT COUNTRY NAMES CAN BE INTERCHANGED AT WILL, LEADING TO SUSPICION THERE MAY BE NAMES OF ANY NUMBER OTHER COUNTRIES INVOLVED IN OPERATION.

4. FONSECA SYS MINED'S ONLY RECOLLECTION THIS INSTITUTION IS VISIT SOME MONTHS AGO BY A DR. HOWARD PARSONAGE, WHO SAID HE INTENDED FOUND UNIVERSITY IN BELIZE. WHEN MINED OFFICIALS QUESTIONED HIM ABOUT CAMPUS SITE, PROGRAMS, CURRICULA, ETC., PARSONAGE REPORTEDLY ANNOUNCED HE "OBVIOUSLY IN WRONG OFFICE" AND WALKED OUT IN HUFF. NOTHING FURTHER HEARD ABOUT SUBJECT UNTIL APPEARANCE OF DOCUMENTS (ASSUMING THEY RELATE TO SAME ORGANIZATION).

5. COPIES ALL DOCUMENTS WILL BE POUCHED DEPARTMENT/CU SEPTEMBER 28, BUT REQUEST CHECK, EVEN IF ONLY CURSORY, ON THIS INSTITUTION ASAP, AS MINED HAS RECEIVED LOCAL INQUIRIES (SOURCE OF DOCUMENTS WAS METHODIST MINISTER REPORTEDLY APPROACHED BY "UNIVERSITY") AND FEARS U. S. CITIZENS POSSIBLY BEING MISLED INTO BELIEVING "UNIVERSITY" IN FACT HAS CAMPUS IN BELIZE AND ENJOYS SOME SORT OF GOB BLESSING.
WALSH

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Message Attributes

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